

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [250] with the following amended paragraph:

[0250] Moreover, the invention can be used as a novel method for drug design and drug discovery. A chemical can be identified as a drug or a pre-drug by its capability to affect the formation and/or disintegration of a particular protein complex that is associated with a disease. Such a chemical should have two characteristic features: (a) it should affect selectively a particular protein interaction (or group of interactions involving a protein that is associated with a disease), unlike increasing the ionic strength which affects transient protein interactions nonselectively, and (b) it should affect the particular protein interaction at a concentration below 10 mM, i.e. a concentration that does not change significantly the ionic strength. After the chemical or a biomolecule is identified as a pre-drug, it can be further modified and the experiment can be repeated with lower concentrations of the said chemical or biomolecule. This can be used to obtain such a chemical that affects selectively the formation and/or disintegration of the protein complex at micromolar concentration, i.e. concentration that is appropriate for treatment of human subjects. In one embodiment, the chemical or biomolecule is designed, synthesized and/or selected for testing by the capability of the chemical or biomolecule to bind to the first ligand or second ligand.